(b) if so, the details of the villages which are being connected with this facility, State-wise, District-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) The various operators, licensed to provide telecommunications services by the Government, are free to deploy any technology including Wireless telephones for connecting villages depending upon the geographical location as well as techno economic considerations as per their Licence conditions.

Vulgar chat boxes and sites

†2649. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards a news-item captioned "Cyber Sex Ki Mahammari Mein Badal Rahi Hai Computer Kranti" Published in Rashtriya Sahara dated 30th January, 2002 which says that use of sensual and vulgar chat boxes and sites is rapidly increasing in India as a result of which disorder is increasing in the Indian society; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to have a check on vulgar chat boxes and websites?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 has a provision to make carriage of obscene contents through networks a punishable offence. Internet Service Providers (ISPs) are required to ensure as per licence agreement that their networks do not carry obscene

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

materials. There has been considerable awareness grown in the country about the harmful effect of such misuse of internet. National Informatics Centre (NIC) has already hosted a web site (netsafety.nic.in) for the benefit of public in this regard.

Cellphones pre-paid cards buyers

2650. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are unable to get exact details of the cellphones pre-paid cards buyers; and

(b) if so, what corrective steps are being taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Cellular Mobile Telephony Service (CMTS) Operators have been instructed to streamline the procedure and ensure complete verification of the identity of each and every subscriber of Cellular Service before providing the service with immediate effect including pre-paid/cash card service.

National Telecom University at Hyderabad

2651. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request from Government of Andhra Pradesh has been received for establishing a National Telecom University at Hyderabad;

(b) if so, when such a request was received in his Ministry; and

(c) what action has been contemplated thereon?